



Strasbourg, 9 March 2006

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

16th MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS
(Venice, 18 March 2006 at 2.30 p.m.)

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council is invited to adopt its agenda as it appears in document CDL-EL-OJ(2006)001ann).

2. Election of the Chair

Following Mr Jurgens' resignation the Council is invited to elect the Chair of the Council for Democratic Elections.

3. Participation of political parties in elections

The Secretariat has prepared a draft report on the participation of political parties in elections ([CDL-EL\(2006\)016](#)), on the basis of comments by Messrs Sanchez Navarro ([CDL-EL\(2005\)018](#)) and Vogel ([CDL-EL\(2005\)057](#)). The Council is invited to examine this report with a view to its adoption.

4. Guidelines on referendums

The Secretariat will inform the Council on progress of work on the guidelines on referendums.

5. Women's participation in elections

At its last meeting the Council examined the draft declaration on women's participation in elections, drawn up on the basis of observations by Mr Luchaire and Ms Suchocka. The proposed amendments have been incorporated into document [CDL-EL\(2006\)010](#) by the Secretariat. A few further amendments have been suggested by members. The Council is invited to examine and adopt the final version of this declaration.

6. Secrecy of the vote in the context of parliamentary procedure

Following a request from the Parliamentary Assembly's Monitoring Committee, a draft questionnaire on secrecy of the vote in the context of parliamentary procedure has been drawn on the basis of comments by Mr Chagnollaude ([CDL-EL\(2006\)004](#)). The Council is invited to examine this questionnaire with a view to its adoption.

7. Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Secretariat will inform the Council on the drafting of a joint opinion by the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR on the draft revision to the electoral law of Bosnia and Herzegovina ([CDL-EL\(2006\)013](#) and [CDL\(2001\)089](#)).

8. Georgia

The Georgian authorities submitted a revised version of the electoral code to the Venice Commission ([CDL-EL\(2006\)009](#)). The Council is invited to examine the draft joint opinion by the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR on this revised version ([CDL-EL\(2006\)017](#)).

drawn up on the basis of comments by Mrs Lazarova Trajkovska, Mr Owen and Mr Pilgrim (OSCE/ODIHR).

9. Future activities

The representative of ODIHR could inform the Council on recent developments concerning the electoral law of Albania.

The Venice Commission will take part in the Parliamentary Assembly's observation mission to Ukraine (March). It is envisaged to participate in observation missions in the following countries during 2006 : Montenegro (Referendum in May); "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" (Parliamentary elections in June or September); Bosnia and Herzegovina (Parliamentary and presidential elections in Autumn).

The 3rd Conference of European Electoral Administrations, organised by the Venice Commission in co-operation with the Russian authorities, in the framework of the Russian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers, will take place in Moscow on 22-23 May 2006. The theme of the Conference is Development and codification of international standards in the field of elections.

The study on electoral law in Europe will be submitted to the next meeting of the Council.

The members are invited to propose other activities.

10. Co-operation with OSCE/ODIHR

The Council will hold an exchange of views with the representatives of OSCE/ODIHR on the possibilities of future co-operation.

11. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, 8 June at 9h45.